

**THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART
CLEVELAND 6. OHIO**

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(This information was related to Mr. Metzler by telephone. Mr. Mooney was told about the

FOR RELEASE ~~March 26~~ Mar. 26 and 27
exhibition but preferred to go to Karamu rather than take down or have info sent to him.)

AFRICAN NEGRO ART is the title of a show installed at Karamu Theatre by the Extension Exhibition Department of The Cleveland Museum of Art. Included are over 60 pieces, many from the Museum's primary collection supplemented by objects from the Extension Department.

A wide range of materials have been used to show the work of Azande, Basonge, Bakubu, Baoule, Mano and Bachote tribes. There are wood carvings, fetish figures, ivory carvings, masks, musical instruments, Ashanti weights, black polished pottery, metal anklets, grasscloth and basketry. This is an exhibition of traditional native African Negro art before influences from outside entered to weaken or commercialize it.

In recent years the introduction of science and other religions have changed the African Negro's approach. The fear and doubt fostered by some of the older art forms are passing away, taking with them the ancient traditions. These traditions have influenced many contemporary artists directly and indirectly, Picasso among them. Men turn to primitive art for inspiration when they seek fundamentals rather than the sophistication of civilizations.

AFRICAN NEGRO ART is of signal interest today.

3.21.60

(SOURCE OF INFORMATION: Miss Doris Dunlavy, Extension Exhibition Department, The Cleveland Museum of Art.)